

Message Text

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NAS BERMUDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 050336

E.O. 11652:ADS-DECLASSIFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: MARR, UK, BD

SUBJECT: OMEGA TESTING - PROGRAM 2041

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1. THE AIR FORCE IS DEVELOPING AN AIRBORNE RECEIVER FOR USE WITH OMEGA, THE LONG RANGE NAVIGATION SYSTEM, WHICH WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING LORAN A SYSTEM. TO AID IN THIS DEVELOPMENT, A SERIES OF NKC-135A FLIGHTS IS NEEDED TO TEST THREE RECEIVER/NAVIGATION PROTOTYPE SYSTEMS. THE FLIGHTS ARE PROPOSED BETWEEN 9-20 MARCH 76, FOR AN OVER-WATER AREA 30 NM NORTH-NORTHWEST OF BERMUDA WITH STAGING OPERATIONS FROM NAVAL AIR STATION, BERMUDA.

2. THE THREE PROTOTYPE SYSTEMS WILL BE INSTALLED IN AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBER 55-3124, FLOWN TO THE TEST AREA AND TESTED FOR POSITIONAL ACCURACY. DURING THE TESTS,
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ACTUAL POSITION OF THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE DETERMINED BY

GROUND RADARS LOCATED AT THE NASA TRACKING SITE IN BERMUDA. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE ACCURATE TRACKING, THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH A C-BAND RADAR TRANSPONDER WHICH WILL TRANSMIT ON 5765 MHZ. THE NASA RADAR WILL BE TEMPORARILY MODIFIED TO INTERROGATE THE AIRCRAFT TRANSPONDER ON 5690 MHZ. ALSO, THE TESTS WILL REQUIRE THAT A PORTABLE OMEGA GROUND MONITOR RECEIVER BE INSTALLED TEMPORARILY AT

NAVAL AIR STATION BERMUDA TO MONITOR OMEGA SIGNALS WHICH ARE TRANSMITTED FROM DISTANT TRANSMITTERS.

3. A TOTAL OF FOUR FLIGHTS, OF FOUR HOURS DURATION EACH, WILL BE NEEDED. AIRSPEED WILL BE 400 KNOTS AND ALTITUDE FLIGHT LEVEL 300 IN THE TEST AREA. FLIGHT CREW CONSISTS OF THREE OFFICERS AND TWO ENLISTED, GROUND CREW OF THREE ENLISTED, AND SPECIAL TEST CREW OF EIGHT PERSONNEL. ALL ARE U.S. CITIZENS BELOW THE RANK OF LTCOL/GS-12. ALL EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE TEST IS THE PROPERTY OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

4. REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK CONCURRENCE OF HMG IN STAGING OF TEST FLIGHTS AND TEMPORARY INSTALLATION OF GROUND MONITOR AT NAVAL AIR STATION BERMUDA. VISIT CLEARANCES AND AIRCRAFT CLEARANCES WILL BE OBTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE IF THIS PROPOSAL IS APPROVED.

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